OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

WINTER 1981

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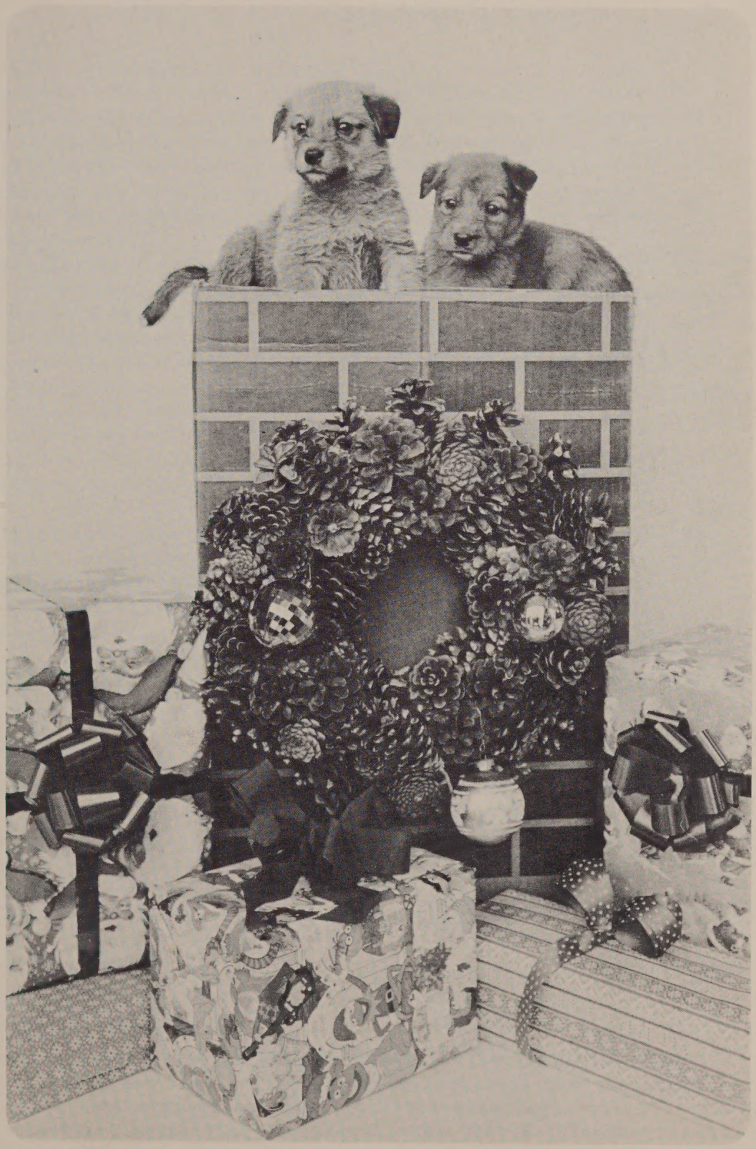

ON THE COVER: Pets can add to holiday fun, but they should never be surprise gifts. (See article on Page 6).

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

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The Best of All Gifts

We have called upon our members and friends during the past year on a number of occasions, and every time these requests have been met with a tremendous and gratifying response. In some cases, we have been able to thank you personally, and in other instances the response has been so great that individual acknowledgement has been impossible. In view of these circumstances, I think it is only proper that I use this forum to extend my personal, heartfelt appreciation to each and everyone of you. All of us who work on a daily basis at the League gain renewed vigor and drive to work even harder when we have the knowledge that there are so many of you who actively join in our efforts.

A perfect example of this outpouring of positive reactions are the thousands of letters you wrote to help support H-1245 - the repeal of the so-called Pound Seizure law. At this writing, the repeal bill unfortunately has not made it through the legislative process, but the support for it was substantial, and this is in large measure due to your fine help. I am greatly disappointed the bill did not pass, but I am not discouraged by it and we plan to try again. I pray that we may also count on your sustained interest and marvelous support. I'm sure it will make the difference between eventual success or failure.

The above is but one instance of the support for which I am grateful. Other things include the hard work and devotion of our Fair workers that went into making our 1981 Fall Fair a great success, and perhaps one of the most gratifying experiences has been your continual kindness with your financial support.

There has probably never been a time in our history that such support has been so important. As I eluded to in a previous article last Summer, more and more demands are being placed on our efforts with the constant withdrawal of various public agency services. I have every reason to believe that your moral and financial support will be especially important in 1982.

The thing I am most grateful for is your special love for all animals which I share so abundantly with you.

May God's love and the blessings of the holiday season bring you peace for today and courage to face the challenges of tomorrow.

Arthur G. Slade
President

"No Pets Allowed"

Condominium conversions, alarmingly low apartment vacancy rates in most cities, and a decrease in the construction of new rental housing have put those who wish to rent rather than buy in a well-publicized plight. Little has been said, however, about the less vocal but equally suffering victims of this situation, the numerous pets left homeless because their owners, in a pressured time of dwindling choices, must opt for a "no pets" lease.

What happens to the animals in these cases? The lucky ones are given to a friend or relative, hopefully one with a big house or yard. Some are simply turned out in the streets to fend for themselves, further compounding another urban problem of crises proportion. Others are given up to humane societies like the League in the hope that a new home will be found for them. "We estimate in the past year alone that about 3500 dogs and cats have been given up to us because their owners had to move to a "no pets" apartment, or because they were being evicted after being caught with "smuggled in" pets," says Sarah Friedrichs, the League's education and information coordinator.

Dogs and cats are now banned in all public housing in Massachusetts, but enforcement of the restriction varies widely from community to community. A quick scanning of apartment rental ads in local papers gives a clear indication that pets are unwelcome in most apartment complexes, including housing for the elderly. Yet, an estimated 7,000 to 10,000 pets are living as undercover tenants in Boston alone, according to an article in the Boston Globe this fall. The number of people walking pets, and buying pet food, in neighborhoods like Beacon Hill, for example, would seem to support this estimate.

Most landlords defend their no-pets policy on the basis that animals damage apartments and common areas, mess up landscaping, and disturb other tenants. While fairness demands an open-minded examination of both sides of the issue, most problems that arise are really caused by a minority of irresponsible pet owners, points our Richard W. Bryant, the League's executive assistant.

In testifying at a hearing last year on the proposed ban of pets from public housing, he stressed that enforcement of this ban often means condemning well-behaved pets to death, since most tenants can't afford to move to higher priced housing. Also, since the pets are usually mature animals, there is little chance for getting them adopted by new families who are usually looking for puppies or kittens.

An across-the-board ban on animals in apartments relegates thousands of pets to death or abandonment and deprives thousands of tenants of their right to enjoy the well-documented benefits of pet ownership. Studies have repeatedly shown that children who grew up with pets are more responsible adults, and are less likely to get into trouble. The therapeutic benefits of pet ownership for the elderly and the lonely are equally well known, and are also eloquently presented in the letter from a reader reprinted with this article. Safety and security is another important consideration, since dogs serve as an excellent deterrent to burglars and vandals.

With proper rules and regulations that are fairly enforced, pets and people can live together harmoniously in apartment settings, Mr. Bryant states. "The key is responsibility on the part of the pet owner," he notes. Pet owners who are trying to rent apartments should be prepared to give a landlord assurances that their animal will not be disruptive or an annoyance to other residents. References from former landlords can be helpful, and a voluntary offer to give an extra month's deposit as insurance against any damages the animal may cause has been effective for some apartment hunters.

"Your dog or cat should be well behaved and trained to the point where it can pass an interview with a prospective landlord," Mr. Bryant advises. Even good behavior is no guarantee, however. "My dog Bo-jangles, who is the League's mascot and demonstrator at dog obedience classes, once flunked an interview with a landlord because he was too big."

REFLECTIONS ON THE ELDERLY AND THEIR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

Becoming aged is not a contagious disease but a culmination of everybody's birthright. Our Elderly Citizens have raised families, owned businesses, governed municipalities, kept and respected the laws of our land, and in their "Heyday" placed this nation in "Tiptop" status. We owe them! We owe them, amongst other things, the right in their declining years, to make their own decisions regarding what is best for them, individually and collectively.

As life moves on and the years remove loved ones from their midst, it is a natural tendency for the aged to despair, become introverted, very lonely, and just give up the desire to live. What a sad waste of person-power! Ah, but then into their lives come their fourfooted friends! They are their companions, their protection, and their therapy! Doctors and other professionals will vouch for the stimulating effect these pets have upon the continued life production of our Elderly. These revered people look upon their pets as their "children" who will never leave them, will not talk back, and who will not tell their secrets! Headaches, fears of attack, complaints, sleeping pills, loneliness, disappear. Their final days pass with a contentment that is beyond verbal description. I know. I've done years of volunteer work with them!

Why then, is there a tendency in bureaucracy to treat these venerated people as second-class citizens? In recent years Housing for the Elderly, both public and private, has been erected throughout our State and Nation. Certain rules must be adhered to, and rightfully so. But why must government or private industry feel it is their obligation to make particular rulings regarding the private living conditions of this segment of our society? Where is the concern and respect for these people when criteria by which they are admitted to subsidized housing must be a decision made between having enough funds for a decent meal and giving up their pet - in other words, relinguishing their therapy. Could this, in some way, be classified as a form of "refined abuse" toward our aged citizentry? Is hierarchy patting itself on the back because of beautiful buildings and attractive landscaping without; while friction, loneliness, and, yes, mice and roaches reign within because fourfooted friends have been forced to be removed?

Let's adopt the procedure: Autonomous ruling in each apartment house! *Bureaucracy should be overwhelmingly grateful for the privilege of being able to delegate this authority. After all, who knows better the needs and desires of each local community than those who dwell therein! Speak up, America!*

Sister Marie Hill
Hyde Park, Mass.

PET CARE CORNER

by Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M.

Holiday Giving

It sounded like a great idea! Late Christmas eve, after the kids are tucked away, the doting uncle sneaks in and delivers a cute little puppy, wearing a big red bow, to be placed under the tree Christmas morning as a surprise gift. Ten hours later, same house: the puppy is exiled to the bathroom in disgrace, ribbons in tatters, after having an accident on Mom's new rug; the youngest in the family, for whom the puppy was intended, turns out to be afraid of dogs; and uncle is summoned quickly to the scene and asked to find a new home for the unwelcome guest.

Well intentioned but poorly planned gestures like this create untold anguish and pain each holiday for animals and people alike. Puppies and kittens are returned to shelters and pet shops, often after being mistreated at the hands of children too young to appreciate their needs and sensitivities. Anger and grudges build between friends and relatives over what was meant to be a thoughtful and generous act.

A lot of trouble could be avoided if anyone who wishes to give a live animal as a gift would take a few simple precautions. First, check to be sure that the pet is really wanted by the gift recipient or, in the case of a child, by his or her parents. Puppies, kittens, birds, and other pets are not like toys that can be returned or exchanged after the holiday. If the family is willing and able to care for a pet, the next question is when to present the gift. Christmas morning, in the midst of excitement and confusion, is the absolutely worst time. Either introduce the animal to its new family a few days before the holiday or, better yet, let children and parents plan a family excursion after the holiday, during school vacation, to the local shelter or pet shop to choose their new companion. If you want something to place under the tree, consider a gift certificate for the purchase of a pet — if gift certificates are not available, create a homemade one.

Another very thoughtful gesture would be to include with the gift certificate a gift-wrapped item that the animal will need in its new home. Before bringing home a puppy or kitten, the new owners should be prepared by having on hand a comfortable bed (a carton lined with newspapers, and an old blanket or towel for comfort, will do nicely), food and water dishes, and collar and leash.

Before selecting their new pet, children should be made thoroughly aware of the fact that an animal is not a toy to be handled roughly, but a living creature with needs and feelings. For the first few days, a puppy or kitten needs relative peace and quiet to adjust to its new surroundings. Its bed should be placed well out of drafts, and in an area where traffic is at a minimum. Although discipline is necessary right from the start, allow things to be somewhat relaxed for the first few days until the animal feels secure. The first night will be a lonely one, but a light shining through a crack in the door and a hot water bottle in the bed filled with warm water may help. Another handy device to calm a young animal is an alarm clock wrapped in a blanket and placed in the bed; the ticking is thought to be mistaken for the mother's heartbeat.

Follow these simple guidelines, and your holiday gift pet will be a source of cheer and good spirits all through the year.

[Dr. Leonard is director of veterinary medicine at the League].

FUN FOR ALL AT THE ANNUAL FAIR

MAKE A PET A PART OF YOUR LIFE by Kenneth L. Marcella

Humans and animals have shared a close relationship almost from the beginning of recorded time. Pets have occupied a prominent and privileged place in our lives. It may surprise you, though, to find out exactly how much a pet can contribute to your mental health. Their warmth, love and nonjudgemental acceptance ofttimes fills sensitive gaps between the interpersonal relationships in our lives. They mirror our fears, frustrations and anxieties and help us celebrate our joys and happiness. Psychologist R.D. Laing writes "We are born into a world where alienation awaits us." There are many who believe that pets provide us with a defense against that isolation and recent work with disturbed children, prisoners and the elderly seems to support this view.

Disturbed children often resist human contact because they have been emotionally "Burned" and are not prepared to become involved in entangling relationships. A pet apparently does not pose such a threat and is more readily accepted. Dr. Boris Levinson, a professor of psychology and a practical clinical psychologist, believes that there are two types of pet therapy. One is the use of pets as therapy aids by the clinician in his office. Dr. Levison often uses his own dog "Jingles" in such a role. The other type of therapy is the introduction of a pet into the child's home environment. The choice depends on the child's particular problem and home-life situation. Qualities of warmth, trust and affection are the essential elements involved in the bond formed between child and pet. The strength of that bond determines the success of therapy. Dogs and cats don't talk back. They are not competitive. And they return love in situations where adults often do not. For the disturbed child the pet becomes an ally against an unfeeling adult world.

Pets as mental therapy

It is important that the disturbed child learn that, although not perfect, it can be loved and accepted. Here the pet provides comparisons and examples. Even though the dog demonstrates a variety of behavior that meets with disapproval, chewing the favorite chair, soiling the rugs, and stealing forbidden objects, it is still a loved and accepted member of the family. If the dog can be accepted then the child, who has misbehaved far less than their pet, can also be loved. And if the dog does not feel guilty, why should the child? Overcoming feelings of guilt may be the first step in the pathway to recovery. Pets open routes of communication in withdrawn children. Beloved dogs and cats from the pound help adopted children accept the love of their foster parents. If an adopted cat can be special and loved then the adopted children see themselves as worthy of love and are more secure about their family position.

Pets bring trust and affection to a child's life.

Animals provide new incentives

Teaching spastic children to use their limbs can be a long and frustrating process, but pets in these children's environments greatly aid in their progress. One such girl was given the task of feeding the family fish and soon became adept at the manipulations needed to open the fish food package, measure the correct amount and drop it in the tank. Another youngster refused to use his legs because he often fell and hurt himself, until his father bought him a puppy. The boy overcame his fears and was soon stumbling, falling, and occasionally walking around the house following his new pet!

Pets can have a tremendous effect on some aspects of mental health. As Dr. Levinson remarks, "Maybe some day we shall advance so far in our understanding that we shall be able to prescribe pets of a certain kind for different emotional disturbances."

Just as disturbed children are alienated from a world they don't understand, prisoners and institutional patients are isolated from a world that has rejected them. The prisoner has few rights and fewer responsibilities. His relationship to society is similar to that of a disturbed child. It is not surprising, then, that the use of pets in therapy works well here too.

The bird or fish kept in a prisioner's cell provides a break from the boring routine of prison life and provides needs that give the prisoner a feeling of responsibility. The pet provides affection, companionship and the trust that society has withdrawn. Discipline is less of a problem where inmates are allowed pets.

Pets and prisoners

The French so value the effect of the pet owner bond that the French S.P.A. (like our S.P.C.A.) takes over the care of pets of people sent to prison. They care for the animal until the time of release, often writing letters or visiting to talk about the pet. The pet is seen as a small door between prison life and the reality of the outside world.

Unlike disturbed children and prisoners, the elderly are not necessarily confused or rejected, but often forgotten. They have ceased to be part of the hustle and bustle of society. Adjusting to a lower

position in later life is often aided by a pet that never challenges or competes and doesn't know the difference between old or young. Dogs, cats, or birds never tire of hearing the same stories told over and over again or of listening to the countless lessons learned throughout a lifetime. The pet accepts. Pets lead to new adventures, interests, and hobbies for the older person. Pet ownership becomes a means of making friends with other elderly people with similar interests. The pet allows the owner to continue to be a provider and protector while returning the affection needed to offset the loneliness often experienced by older people.

In a study done on patients of a coronary care unit, many of whom were elderly, doctors found that the heart attack patients who owned pets had a higher percentage of recovery. The dependence of their pets gave them a sense of being needed and contributed to their drive to recover.

In order to feed and care for a pet, owners may engage in activities of which they thought themselves no longer capable. Since most pet owners will not neglect the feeding of their pet, they find it harder to ignore their own nutritional needs. Mealtime becomes a joint venture. In taking care of a pet the owner is frequently taking care of him or herself too.

Pets can be valuable and indispensable aids to the mental health of their owners. They return love and affection, and their dependence provides owners with the crucial sense of being needed. While pets contribute these qualities to every relationship, their effects are best seen in cases where owners are isolated from society in some way; the disturbed child, the outcast prisoner, the elderly. In instances where man is abandoned by his fellow man it seems natural, or even necessary, that he should seek companionship with other animals.

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THE LOVE OF A DOG

It's just a little bunch of fur
A couple pounds, you'd say.
"You want a dog?, the owner says,
"Then, here, take hime away."

I'll never have another dog
A nuisance they can be
They'll chew your shoes, and soil your rug
And cause such deviltry
I'll never have another dog!

Oh look at him, he is so cute
His eyes so big and bright
He's just the thing to meet you
When you come home at night.
He'll greet you with a broken toy
A leap-a bark-a kiss.
These are the things you'll never have
The things that you will miss
Unless you have
another dog.

So home he goes against your will
You can't resist his wiles.
Your wife will meet you at the door
Her face is wreathed in smiles.
She grins and tries to look so pleased
And all the time she thinks
"I'll be the one who's stuck with him,
Just him and his high jinks.
I'll feed him and I'll care for him
And clean his accidents, too.
And get his shots, and get him clipped
There's nothing I can do - cause -
We have another dog".

You'll love him so, your heart will burst
Until one fateful day
The doctor calls, and sadly says
"Your dog has passed away".

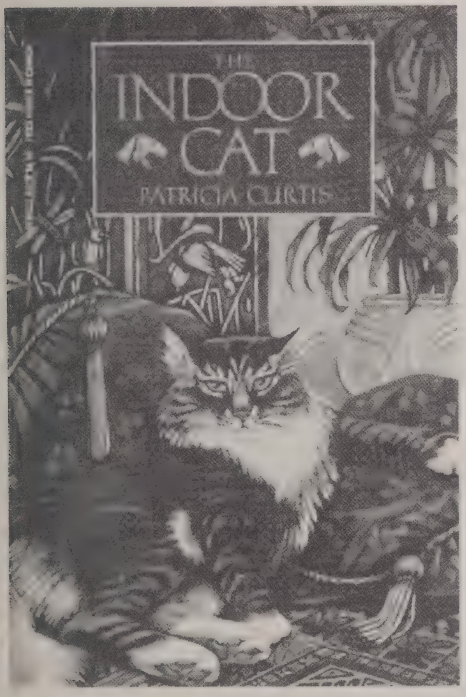
The tears will flow, the heart will break.
Again, you're heard to say -
I'll never have another dog!
Until a sad-eyed little guy
Looks at you with loving eyes
And pleads, "Oh mister,
take me home"
And a voice within you cries
"I guess we have another dog"!

Book Reviews

Looking for a good book to present one of your children this Christmas? These few suggestions may help when you face the endless racks of children's books at the bookstore.

Dogs at Work, by James McCoy, illustrated by Sheila Beatty, Crown Publishers, Inc., New York, 1977. This is a handsome book which highlights eleven working breeds. Many people don't realize that before dogs were lucky enough to become companions they were expected to perform many duties to earn their owners' care. The introduction briefly explains how dogs evolved from wolves and each section portrays the heroic deeds and special skills of breeds such as the St. Bernard, Golden Retriever, Great Pyranees, and Border Collie.

The outstanding features of the 74 page book are the dramatic yet accurate illustrations by Sheila Beatty. Available for $7.95, the book will delight any serious young dog lover age eight to twelve.



The Indoor Cat, by Patricia Curtis, Perigee Books, Putnam Publishing Group, New York. For children 12 and over, or the adults on your list, this 192-page paperbook is subtitled "How to understand, enjoy and care for house cats." A book designed for the cat owner who is an apartment dweller, it covers all the information needed to insure happiness for the indoor cat. Important topics such as diet, sanitation, safety, health and recreation are covered in an easy, entertaining style, illustrated with 30 amusingly captioned photographs.

For all those who'd like to get to know their cats a great deal better, this book is available at $4.95.

Just a Dog, by Helen Griffiths, illustrated by Victor Ambrus, (160 pages, age 9-13) Holiday House, New York, 1974. Though not new, this book tells the story of an age-old problem that always motivates new thoughts on the relationship of people and pets. A small, yellow and white mixed breed pup born near a junkyard in an empty house, is abandoned by her first young owner and his uncaring mother. The stray pup wanders into the hearts of four successive owners who offer only temporary shelter and intermittent care - a night watchman, a gypsy boy, and an elderly man. The book is realistic and not at all sympathetic, but concludes happily in a new apartment building with a family who realizes their responsibility is an equitable exchange for the dog's overwhelming love and faithfulness.

Three poignant pet stories for the younger set, K-3, are written and illustrated by a wife and husband team, Carol and David Carrick. **Lost in the Storm**, **The Accident** and **The Foundling** are three approximately 16 page, beautifully illustrated children's books published by The Seabury Press, New York.

Lost in the Storm begins with a boy Christopher, and his dog, Bodger, who while playing with a friend are separated by a storm. Christopher must wait a long fretful night before searching for his lost dog and worries about what his dog will eat and where he will sleep in heavy rain on a deserted beach.

The Accident deals with Bodger's death and Christopher's dismay after the truck hit and killed his dog. The sadness is dealt with in a gentle, straightforward way and will help any child who has suffered such a loss come to terms with the strong feelings that accompany the permanent separation.

The Foundling finds Christopher with strong memories of Bodger resisting his parents' efforts to adopt a puppy at a local animal shelter. Christopher has already formed a genuine affection for what he believes is the next door neighbor's new puppy. In the end, he rescues the pup from a dangerous dockside and upon returning it discovers the pet is actually a summer vacationer's abandoned pet.

All three Carrick books will motivate good questions and strong feelings about proper pet care and responsibility.

IN THE MAILBOX

The Fall Issue of **Our Fourfooted Friends** came yesterday in my mail and I am deeply touched by it and its contents as several items refer to things which either happened or had a direct relation to me and the years when I was a part of the ARL. Let me elaborate...

IGLOO... I stood among the crowd when this little animal was interred. Later my young daughter and son were photographed in front of the stone iceberg grave marker as they placed a small bouquet of flowers which they picked from our garden at Pine Ridge. We, the Young family, lived at Pine Ridge at that time. My son Robert was born while we lived there.

Admiral Byrd asked that we at the League find another Igloo to fill some of the space left by Igloo's passing... Incidentally, Igloo's illness and death was one of the ten highest news items of the year for the Boston press. I tried to find a second Igloo at the league and finally after everyone at the League had exhausted their efforts without finding such a dog, I started driving to suburbs etc. searching for such a dog. After many miles I located a litter of fox terriers near Fort Devens as I was having a late lunch alongside the highway at a then Fast Food stop. Byrd had given me $20.00 to buy a dog for him. The owner of the lunch stand wanted $25.00. I added my five and took "Iceberg," as Byrd named him, home too late to go to the Admiral's home downtown. My wife, Irma asked that if the Admiral did not like the dog the next a.m. I was to return it to her for our own pal. Needless to say that when I took the little fellow to the Admiral, he looked at him and said "take the leash off". You can find some reference to all this in the Admiral's book titled "IGLOO..He Was More Than a Friend".

The name Fred Murkland brought back loads of happy memories as he and I spent many, many interesting times together. He did many fine things for the league as well as for me.

Amrita Island was acquired during my days... Bob Sellar was the League's president at the time and he and I spent loads of hours going over all sorts of items which concerned the League.

My mind runs wildly as I am writing this and I must avoid loading too many things on you folks... But, here are a few quickies... I was principal in setting up the branch at Martha's Vineyard, and I visited the Cape and other branches often. I stood beside Mrs. Smith's bed as she passed away. Archie MacDonald and I were there along with her maid... Fuzzy, Mrs. Smith's dearest pet dog, was under the bed at the moment of her death and at that instant this dog got up went down stairs and never returned to the bedroom.

Now, before I wear out the typewriter and your eyes reading this chatter I will ring off and wish all the League a wonderful year ahead.

Sincerely yours,
W.A.Young, D.V.M.

Pets in the Picture

Here's "Lucky", a most appropriate name for a dog who was found "wandering the streets, cold and hungry,"according to Mrs. Margaret Carroll Hay of Jamaica Plain who rescued "Lucky" and adopted her in 1980. "She is a wonderful watchdog and good company," writes Mrs. Hay.

Mrs. Eileen M. Shaw of Brighton submits this sonnet in memory of her late pet "Poncho", pictured here drinking out of the bird bath, which he preferred to his usual bowl. The photo was taken a month before his death this spring at the age of 15, Mrs. Shaw writes.

A Sonnet [in memory of Poncho]
A joy went out of my life today
When our pet "Poncho" went away.
A pedigree cat, he was not,
But in my heart a special spot
Is set aside with memories bright
To help my grief on through the night.
A pal he was, for all these years,
Seeming to share my joys and fears,
Greeting me always on his way
With a gentle purr, as if to say
"We've seen a lot, both you and I,
But your friend I'll be until I die.
Never once thinking that he would go
Leaving me missing and wanting him so!"

animal rescue league NEWSFRONT

NEW VACCINE FOR CAT LEUKEMIA

Researchers at Ohio State University announced recently that they have developed a vaccine that is 80 to 90% effective in protecting cats from leukemia. Cat leukemia, the researchers stress, is not communicable to humans. The vaccine is not made from the leukemia virus and contains no genetic material, a procedure that many feared might cause rather than combat the disease. Instead, according to Dr. Richard Olsen who developed the vaccine, it is composed of the excreted products of cat cells that have been grown in laboratory dishes and infected with the cat leukemia virus. In addition to offering protection for cats, it is hoped that the research done in developing the vaccine may have application to human leukemia as well. The researcher, according to the report in the Los Angeles Times, found that a single protein on the surface of the virus was responsible for supressing the cats' immune system so severely that the cats could not fight infections.

RABID FOX FOUND IN FOXBORO

The discovery of a rabid fox in Foxboro this fall, the first confirmed case of rabies in a wild, ground animal in Massachusetts in over forty years, prompted hundreds of pet owners in the area to have their dogs and cats vaccinated at a special clinic held by the board of health in response to the rabies threat. Several animals were also trapped and tested for rabies at the Department of Public Health state laboratory, but no other cases were found. The young red fox, which was shot when it attacked an area resident and his wife who were horseback riding in a wooded area, had a strong odor of skunk on it. Skunks top the list of rabid animals reported in the U.S. during 1980.

Editor's note: In 1980, there were 6,405 laboratory confirmed cases of animal rabies in the U.S., an increase of approximately 1,250 cases over 1979, and the largest number since 1954. Seven kinds of animals accounted for 97% of the total reported cases: skunks 4,040 (63%), bats 723 (11.2%), cattle 398 (6.2%), raccoons 393 (6.1%), dogs 247 (4%), cats 212 (3.3%), and foxes 207 (3.2%). These figures underscore dramatically the importance of having domestic pets inoculated against rabies, and not adopting wild animals as pets.

BEGINNING TO FEEL A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS FOR AREA HORSES

Kennel master Fred Clark played Santa on a visit to the MDC and Boston mounted patrol horses at the League's Christmas Dinner for Horses in 1980.

The League once again is marking the holiday season by providing the traditional Christmas Dinner for Horses, an event that dates back to 1913. This year, carrots, apples, blankets, and Blue Seal horse feed are being distributed to some 600 working horses in the Boston area.

NEWSFRONT

HOME TO OLD ENGLAND FOR OCEAN CRUISING CAT

Lucky, the well-named pet of Mrs. Linda Sinclair of Morecambe in Lancashire, England, went home this fall after a 5-month odyssey that included crossing the Atlantic in a 40-foot long oceangoing cargo container and winding up in central Texas. After wandering away from home last April, Lucky's natural cat curiosity was her undoing when she scampered into a cargo container being loaded with antique furniture at a Lancashire warehouse. Her story had a happy ending though when British Caledonian Airways flew her home from Texas in a tartan-lined box. Now all she has to worry about is the six-month quarantine required by British law before rejoining her owner.

CALIFORNIA OFFERS REWARD TO HALT DOG FIGHTING

A coalition of welfare organizations have announced that they are offering up to $10,000 reward for information resulting in felony convictions of people engaged in the rapidly growing "sport" of dog fighting in the San Francisco Bay area. Dog fighting was recently made a felony in California with penalties including time in jail and as much as $50,000 fine, according to a report in **Today's Animal News.**

This cruel and violent activity causes brutal injury and agonizing death. In addition to dogs, small animals such as kittens and rabbits are often used in the training process, being subjected to torture and ultimately death. In Massachusetts, dog fighting is also against the law. Anyone who knows of a dog fighting operation in the Massachusetts area should contact the League's law enforcement department at 426-9170.

AHA RATES NEW FILMS

The American Humane Association has recently announced ratings for two new movie releases, based on screenings for evidence of cruelty to animals in the production of the films. They are:

ACCEPTABLE - "Heartbeeps," a Michael Phillips Production for Universal Pictures.

BELIEVED ACCEPTABLE - "The Beast Within," a Mony Production, United Artists.

LEAGUE TO COSPONSOR AHA TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is joining the American Humane Association (AHA) in co-sponsoring a two and a half day Leadership Training Institute in Boston for Professionals in Animal Care and Control, January 20-22, 1982. Similar training programs will be held in St. Paul, Minnesota; West Palm Beach, Florida; Riverside, California; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Denver Colorado, as part of the American Humane Leadership Training Institutes program.

A CLOSE CALL FOR SANTA'S REINDEER

Just four days after the opening of Vermont's deer hunting season, Donder, a 400-pound reindeer at Santa's Land, in Putney, Vt., broke out of his pen and went sightseeing. After spending a day in the fields and woods of southern Vermont, Donder was located and brought home safely, much to the relief of area officials who feared that Santa's steed would be mistaken by hunters for the white-tailed deer found in the area.

IN MEMORIAM

NORENE T. BATES

We are sad to report that Mrs. Norene T. Bates passed away on November 9, 1981 after a long illness.

She was employed by the league for 35 years at our Sheldon Branch in Salem. Mrs. Bates was the beloved wife of Sherman N. Bates, manager of the Sheldon Branch until he and Mrs. Bates retired in 1980.

Our staff, Board of Directors and their many friends extend our sincere sympathy to the Bates family. Norene will be greatly missed by all of us, but our lives have been enriched by having known her for so many years.

MOVING?

Please let us know now if you're planning to move so we can be sure that you receive **Our Fourfooted Friends** without interruption.

Old Address:

Name .....

Street .....

City..... State..... Zip.....

(please print or attach mailing label)

New Address:

Name .....

Street.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

Note: Please indicate if change is only temporary - a summer or winter vacation address, for example.

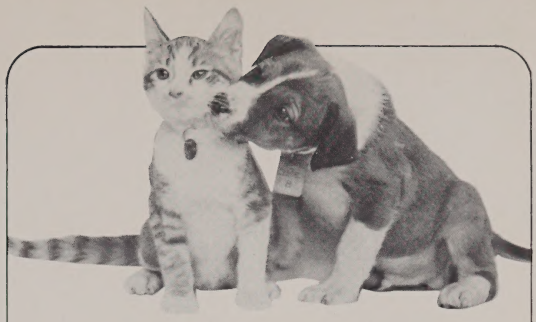
We need loving homes.

Healthy, friendly pups, kittens and older pets need loving parents who care. Visit our adoption center located at the corner of Arlington and Tremont Streets in Boston.

CAPE COD: 255-1030
SALEM: 744-7910

Animal Rescue League of Boston
617-426-9170

GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE



Membership in the A.R.L. makes a nice gift for someone special

Please send a gift membership in the Animal Rescue League of Boston for the class of membership checked below. (dues are enclosed):

- ☐ **Benefactor, $1,000.00**
- ☐ **Patron, $500.00 annually**
- ☐ **Contributing, $100.00 annually**
- ☐ **Supporting, $50.00 annually**
- ☐ **Active, $25.00 annually**
- ☐ **Associate, $10.00 annually**
- ☐ **Donor, Any amount**

To:

Name_____

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City_____

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Please mail your magazine, Our Four footed Friends, to the address given above. ($2 of membership fee covers a year's subscription).

Animal Rescue League of Boston
P. O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

From our home to yours. . .

Season's Greetings
from the staff of the
Animal Rescue League of Boston

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Animal Rescue League of Boston
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